

The Gardner Museum Fall 2021 Lecture Series

All events run from 7-8 pm after a museum-hosted reception from 6:30-7pm (unless otherwise noted). **RESERVATION is required for every event!!!** Admission for non-member adults is \$3

Sep 01 | **Start of the Fall/Winter Exhibit - no reservation needed**
Local collectors exhibit Nativity Scenes. On display during regular opening hours, until Dec 19

Sep 02 | **Bob Cousy – the Life, the Legend**
Gardner author Chris Daly, who profiled Bob Cousy in his book *Hub Heroes*, talks about the life and legacy of the Celtics great, who has made Worcester his home for more than 70 years. Cousy's view of the role of sports in American society will also be discussed.

Sep 09 | **Freemasons – the most well-known “secret society”**
Douglas Ellis, Past District Grand Master, will explain what Freemasonry is, and talk about Gardner's Lodges on Central St (Hope Lodge and St. Paul Lodge). Pat Darby, Worthy Matron of the Jessamine Chapter of the Order of the Eastern Star will enlighten us about that Masonic appendant body. The presentation precedes an open house at the Masonic Hall at 42 Central St on Oct 16, all are welcome.

Sep 13 | **Annual Meeting 7 pm – Museum Members Only**
Election/Confirmation of board of Trustees, and Executive Board; review of fiscal information; update on previous and future museum activities.

Sep 16 | **Deborah Sampson - A Revolution of Her Own™ 6:30 pm!**
A theater performance presented by History At Play™, LLC which features the life of the first woman to fight in the American Military, Deborah Sampson. Supported in part by a grant from the Gardner Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the MA Cultural Council, a state agency. (Due to the earlier start time of the program, the reception starts at 6 pm!)

Sep 18 | **Annual Smithsonian Day – free admission - no reservation needed**
During regular opening hours 1-4 pm; event hosted by Smithsonian Magazine

Sep 23 | **American Patriotism – rescheduled from the spring lecture series**
For Americans, the word Patriotism tends to mean shared celebrations like the national anthem and the Pledge of Allegiance. Prof. Ben Railton will demonstrate that this communal expression of an idealized America is just one of four types of Patriotism, and that there are also a mythic version (the creation of national myths that exclude certain communities), an active version (acts of service and sacrifice for the nation), and a critical version (arguments for how the nation has fallen short of its ideals that seek to move us toward that more perfect union). He will explore all those forms of American patriotism, using the four verses of “America the Beautiful” as examples of each type, and traces them across our histories. This historic view will also help us better understand many of our 21st century debates so we can begin to move forward toward a more perfect union that we all can celebrate. The presentation is based on Prof. Railton's latest book, *Of Thee I Sing - The Contested History of American Patriotism*.

- Oct 07** **Clara Barton**
Museum member Doris Forte will impersonate MA native Clara Barton as she looks back on her long and influential life: Clarissa Harlowe Barton (1821-1912) dedicated her life to helping others at a time before women had the right to vote. She established New Jersey's first public school for children, provided aid to Civil War soldiers in the battlefield, was a teacher and patent clerk, and founded the American Red Cross. She was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1973.
- Oct 14** **Making of a Silver Spoon** – back by popular demand
Revisit Gardner's silversmithing tradition with local silversmith Peter Erickson as he handcrafts a spoon in the museum's replica silver shop, using the museum's and his grandfather's tools.
- Oct 21** **Annual Veterans Roundtable**
Panel discussion about war experiences – Moderator Alan Dernalowicz. Panelists include Stephanie Marchetti (Executive Director, Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center), a Montachusett Veterans Outreach Center staff member (Veteran), Charles R. Stone (Lt. Colonel Retired, U.S. Army, Vietnam Veteran), among others
- Oct 28** **Bathsheba Spooner – Perpetrator & Victim**
On July 2, 1778, Bathsheba Ruggles Spooner, a 32-year-old, intelligent and independent-minded woman from Brookfield became the first woman to be executed in the new American republic for having arranged for the murder of her husband. But she was also a victim. She was trapped by social mores that allowed no escape from an abusive husband. Condemned for her Loyalist sympathies, she was rushed to judgment by a community fearful of civil disorder. Book presentation by musicologist, art historian, teacher, and author Andrew Noone.
- Nov 10** **16th annual Festival of Trees - no reservation needed**
The beloved event is open to the public starting today, until Saturday, 12/4. Opening hours: Wednesdays, Thursdays 1-4 pm; Fridays 1-7 pm; Saturdays, Sundays 10 am – 4 pm. During the Festival, our regular museum gift shop will also carry seasonal items for purchase.
- Dec 04** **Festival of Trees – Drawing Day**
Last day to purchase tickets: sales only 10 am – 12 pm. Winners will be notified following the drawing.
- Dec 05** **Festival of Trees pick up day**
Winners can pick up their trees or other items.